

Message Text

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ACTION SCCT-02

INFO OCT-01 ARA-16 EUR-25 EA-11 IO-14 ISO-00 CIAE-00

DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-11 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-07 PA-04

RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-03 SS-20 USIA-15 DRC-01 /145 W

----- 104911

R 171300Z AUG 74

FM AMEMBASSY ASUNCION

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3248

INFO AMEMBASSY BELGRADE

AMEMBASSY BUENOS AIRES

AMEMBASSY CANBERRA

AMEMBASSY MADRID

AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM

AMEMBASSY WELLINGTON

USMISSION GENEVA

USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE ASUNCION 3429

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PINS, PFOR, YO, SP, SW, PA

SUBJECT: CROATIAN TERRORISTS

REF: STATE 160604 AND PREVIOUS

1. YUGOSLAV AMBASSADOR TO PARAGUAY DRAGAN BERNARDIC (RESIDENT IN BUENOS AIRES) IN THE COURSE OF HIS ANNUAL VISIT TO PARAGUAY CALLED ON ME TODAY TO DISCUSS RESULTS OF HIS APPROACH TO THE GOP REGARDING ASYLUM GRANTED TO SIX CROATIAN TERRORISTS HERE. HE SAID FOREIGN MINISTER RAUL SAPENA PASTOR HAD TOLD HIM THAT THE CROATIANS HAD BEEN GRANTED LEGAL ENTRANCE INTO PARAGUAY ONLY BECAUSE OF THE GOP'S IGNORANCE OF THEIR TERRORIST ANTECEDENTS, BUT THAT NOW THE ONLY LEGAL RECOURSE WAS THE ADMITTEDLY TEDIOUS AND TIME-CONSUMING EXTRADITION PROCEDURE WHICH COULD BE CARRIED OUT ONLY BY THE SWEDISH GOVERNMENT. AMBASSADOR BERNARDIC SAID HE HAD EX-LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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PRESSED HIS REGRET THAT THE GOVERNMENT OF PARAGUAY

HAD, WITHOUT PROVOCATION, SEEN FIT TO COMMIT WHAT HE DESCRIBED TO SAPENA PASTOR AS AN QTE UNFRIENDLY ACT UNQTE AGAINST YUGOSLAVIA. HE ADDED THAT HE WARNED SAPENA PASTOR THAT TERRORISM, REGARDLESS OF IDOLOGICAL MOTIVATION, WAS AN INTERNATIONAL EVIL WHICH SHOULD BE COMBATTED BY ALL NATIONS OR IT WOULD DESTROY ALL NATIONS.

2. AMBASSADOR BERNARDIC AND I THEN REVIEWED THE HISTORY OF THE CASE. I INFORMED HIM OF THE STEPS WE HAD TAKEN TO MAKE THE GOP FULLY AWARE NOT ONLY OF THE CRIMINAL ANTECEDENTS OF THE CROATIANS, BUT OF THE USG'S STRONG POSITION AGAINST GRANTING ASYLUM OF TERRORISTS. HE WAS AWARE OF OUR INTEREST IN THE CASE AND EXPRESSED HIS APPRECIATION.

3. AMBASSADOR BERNARDIC SAID HE WOULD REPORT THE RESULT OF HIS CONVERSATION WITH GOP TO HIS GOVERNMENT. HE AGREED THAT A SWEDISH REQUEST FOR EXTRADITION APPEARED TO BE THE ONLY APPROACH WHICH GAVE ANY PROMISE OF SUCCESS WITH AN EMBARRASSED GOP.
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Message Attributes

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30 JUN 2005

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